

**DECAM  
WILDLAND FIRE  
PROGRAM  
ON  
FT. CARSON**

Introduction: The DECAM Wildland Fire team consists of the Director, the Agronomy Branch, and several members within DECAM that assist the Ft. Carson Fire Department with Prescribed and Wildland Fires downrange on Ft. Carson and PCMS. The following equipment is used in this operation:

1. Brush 36; Type 6 engine with 300 gallons of water.
2. Brush 37; Type 6 engine with 300 gallons of water.
3. Tender 36; Type 3 engine with 1,500 gallons of water.
4. Tender 37; Type 3 engine with 876 gallons of water.

Prescribed Fire: The primary purpose of the prescribed fire program on Ft. Carson is to reduce the amount of fuels (primarily grasses) that surround the training ranges. The type of weapons used on the ranges (M-60 and .50 caliber machine guns) combined with tracer rounds, Stinger missiles, and target drones can easily start fires. The objective of a prescribed fire program is to burn a buffer around the range that will contain fires started within the interior of the range. The prescribed fire program also provides training for crews from the Ft. Carson Fire Department, DECAM and outside agencies that assist when needed on large fires.

Wildland Fire: Fires that are started because of training exercises, lightening strikes, or other causes will develop fast and spread rapidly when the fire danger is high or extreme. An aggressive initial attack is required to control these fires or they will burn out of control and cause extensive damage to the range (e.g. grass, trees, and/or wildlife) or to structures located on the range (e.g. targets, mechanical target tracks, and/or control towers). In extreme conditions, fires may threaten to burn off the Installation.

The priority of this program is to insure the safety of the firefighters, the military, and the public, protect valuable resources, and keep fire off private land next to the installation.

For further information on the DECAM Wildland Fire team, call (719) 526-1696.